

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above referenced application are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 4-7, 9-13, 15-18, 20-24, 26, 28, 29, 37, 38 and 41-43 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Shavit et al. in view of Gebhardt, JR. et al. In response to the rejection, a number of the claims are amended in a way that obviates the rejection.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of Claims 4 and 5 therein, and also to make these limitations more specific to the subject matter disclosed in paragraph 36 of the specification. Specifically, Claim 1 recites that the data repository stores not only the accessibility state information, but also stores user schedule information that defines a user's schedule. An intelligent decision about the way to contact the user is made based on the users "context", which here is obtained from the user scheduling information.

Shavit et al. does teach setting a priority for the way the user is contacted. That priority is manually set by the user, but in any case there is no teaching or suggestion of an intelligent decision of which way the communication is made. Shavit et al. simply teaches that the communication is made based on the priorities set in that table. Nothing in Gebhardt,

JR. et al. teaches anything about this: Gebhardt, JR. et al. is only cited to show that bridged communications are known.

Claim 13 has been amended in an analogous way to Claim 1, and should be allowable along with the claims which depend therefrom. Claim 24 has analogously been amended and should be allowable for similar reasons. Similarly, Claim 37 has been amended in this way and should be allowable for analogous reasons.

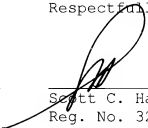
Claim 38 is canceled herewith to obviate the rejections thereto. Claim 41 has been amended in a similar way to those discussed above.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. No fee is believed to be due, however please apply any credits or additional charges to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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